



West Lafayette Go Greener Commission  
609 West Navajo Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47906

### **West Lafayette Go Greener Commission Meeting**

Minutes of Regularly Scheduled Commission Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2013, 6:00 PM

Council Chambers, West Lafayette City Hall

Attending: Allen Jacobsen; Kara Salazar; Thom Davis; Dave Henderson; Lindsey Payne; Heather Gall; Parr Durr; Tom Voight; Peter Bunder; James Britton

Absentees: Gene Hanus; Aparna Puri; Mary Kate Dufair-McDunna

Others: Vicky Birch, WL City Council District 4, Rick Parsons

### **Agenda**

- I. Allen: Call to order
- II. Allen: Defer approval of minutes until next month, Lindsey will resend Feb minutes
- III. Allen: Financial Report
  - a. No change, \$4,023 balance
- IV. Commission Membership, Election of Officers for 2013-2014 Term
  - a. Allen - Welcome Kara Salazar, working with sustainable communities, land use decision program, split between IL/IN Sea Grants
  - b. All committee members introductions
  - c. Officers run March to March
    - Allen willing to continue as chair
    - Thom willing to continue as vice chair
    - Lindsey willing to continue as secretary
    - Allen is favor of appointment, James moves, Peter seconds, approved
- V. Summary of Meeting with Mayor Dennis on 3/15/13
  - a. Thom and Allen met with Mayor Dennis, positive meeting; Dennis is supportive of current projects and efforts; did not have new initiatives he would like us to work on; re: green events – supportive of GG recommendation to focus on small events in WL; agreed it would be useful for all of us to meet more regularly (quarterly for instance) – all commissioners welcome
- VI. Sustainability Report & Metrics – Completion of Summary Report
  - a. Thom – will distribute a rough shell of what report will look like, but challenge in bringing it together and would like help on specific parts of specialties; cover page, executive summary, etc.
  - b. Allen – discussed with mayor and he wants to review before disseminated; mayor doesn't think it need to happen by April, so we have more time; need to add Aparna's information to the report



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- c. Lindsey – are we printing this? What is our plan for distribution?
  - d. Allen – we will see, who wants it, how they want it; other communities keep all this on a website, so we should consider this
- VII. Organization for Green Events for Summer 2013
  - a. Allen - Identified events we felt we could manage (Riverfest, July 13, we will have a booth & canoe; Outfest, Aug 17, TBA, Allen would be willing to contact organizers; Beers Across the Wabash, Aug 24, 12-5, contact Greg Immick, Chris Johnson, James is on committee; Global Fest, Aug 31, TBA, contact Penny Answorth; Art on Wabash, Sept 15, 10-4)
  - b. James & Heather will serve on sub-committee to organize green events
  - c. Allen – before next meeting all will find stuff, James & Heather can you outreach to event contacts
  - d. James – we should bring some new city bins for display at events
- VIII. Trash Ordinance Discussion
  - a. Peter - First reading will be in April; the possibility of incentives are there in the ordinance, but there are not specifics
  - b. The ordinance is lacking incentives for reducing waste, other than saying what items are acceptable for recycling.
  - c. All commissioners should send comments to Allen and he can compile them. The comments will then be passed on to city council.
  - d. Allen - 67.04 – is this in current ordinance? Peter thinks that the owner has always been reliable for the tenants' activities.
  - e. Tom - Does not understand what we're trying to accomplish other than the fee increase. He says he is confused. Allen: There is no policy initiative.
  - f. Allen - The current version of the code is online.
  - g. Peter - will send 2010 Pay as You Throw report to Allen to distribute to the commissioners.
  - h. Allen - Was there any discussion for spending some money on education/outreach or incentivizing increased recycling by non-economic means?
  - i. Peter - Thinks that economic incentives are needed to get above a certain level of recycling. Another problem is that this is the third cost increase to residents over the past few months.
  - j. Thom – takes a lot of political will to help moderate alternatives
  - k. Dave – larger portion of cost is in the labor
  - l. Tom – is this a control issue? There will always be an objections to weighing individual trash, is possible on some sort of aggregated level to tax, if you want



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me to put more in the yellow, you can use government threats or you can incentivize; educate me and that may help; "talk to my wallet"

- m. Peter – there were two EPICS courses that worked these things
- n. Aparna – did it just come down to logistics?
- o. Tom – my experience in Illinois, all trash was private and I had to buy everything, if there is a structure there is a variable component and you can charge there; the tipping fee is what you need to attack
- p. Peter – Tom, write up a tiered system and Peter can move to amend; it will lose, but I will do it
- q. Tom – don't profess to be the end all be all in this, but do know it is being done
- r. Allen – was any consideration given to revisions frequency of collection as a way to save money
- s. Peter – once upon a time 2 x week, would you pick up 2 x month
- t. Allen – bi weekly recycling collection, weekly recycling
- u. Parr – that dis-incentivizes recycling

IX. Discussion of On-Street Recycling Pilot Project

- a. Allen - Students who lives in large apartment complexes to recycle materials; ideas is that; city will distribute "roll-off" dumpster and collect recycling; would sit on Harrison street; this will most likely not be in place until summer; prototype
- b. Rick – this is an issue
- c. Aparna – would be nice to have one in Chauncey
- d. Allen – Anne Hunt would like us to suggest ways to assess this pilot project
- e. James – how often it fills up
- f. Parr – depends on time of year
- g. Thom – but in the summer this will go to events, so compliments this
- h. Allen – starting there, but if doesn't work will move it
- i. Tom – not a good place, but a good start, have to start somewhere
- j. Lindsey – tap into Student Sustainability Council and Office of University Sustainability, Boiler Byte, Boiler TV
- k. Allen – city has bought the box, but we don't have a replacement box when this one goes away to be emptied
- l. Peter – what do we say to apartments? How do we get them to promote it?
- m. Heather – is there a collective schedule?
- n. Allen – don't know
- o. James – could put out educational billboards on the bin

X. New Business / Announcements



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- a. Allen – Paint the Rain program, <http://www.tippeconow.com/painttherain/>, do we want to participate (\$100 bucks buy barrel, decorate, donate; \$100 sponsor barrel; or \$200 paint barrel and city would own it); Rick – all proceeds go to water quality projects for cost share program, PTR committee has details; green practices installed in community, <http://www.tippeconow.com/possibilities.php>; Peter – motions to buy barrel, Tom seconds, approved
  - b. Lindsey - Student Sustainability Summit, Feb-20, over 180 attendees, 80% students, 40 different organizations represented, graphics attached
- XI. Adjournment
- a. Tom motions to adjourn, Thom seconds, adjourned.

Next meeting April 9, 2013, 6:00 PM!

Recorded by Lindsey Payne and submitted to Allen Jacobsen on March 19, 2013.